



City of Harrisonburg  
Public Information Office  
345 South Main Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801  
540-432-8931 FAX 540-432-7778

For Immediate Release  
May 30, 2013

Contact: Drew Williams, Assistant Director of Public Works  
540.434.5928  
Drew.Williams@HarrisonburgVA.gov

## Preliminary Design Complete for Roundabout

Harrisonburg, VA – The City of Harrisonburg is making progress for the next roundabout, which will be located at the intersection of Carlton and Reservoir streets.

The project consists primarily of the intersection being converted to a roundabout but also incorporates improvements such as sidewalks, better drainage, the relocation of utilities, and signage and pavement markings. The improvements will extend from the intersection out 300 feet in each direction.

A roundabout was chosen at this intersection due to the close proximity of the already signalized intersection of Cantrell Avenue and Carlton Street. The roundabout serves as a traffic calming feature as northbound motorists move from a commercial area to residential neighborhood. While most communities in our area are not as familiar with roundabouts, this type of intersection is safe and helps ease the flow of traffic.

“We are working to educate the community on how to effectively travel through a roundabout and the reasoning behind why this type of intersection has been considered for installation,” said Drew Williams, Assistant Director of Public Works.

The community is encouraged to visit [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/Carlton-Street](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/Carlton-Street). This site provides information on the project and an interactive training scenario to see how roundabouts work by car, by bike, and when walking.

One roundabout intersection already exists in Harrisonburg, which is located at Linda Lane and Smithland Road. In 2012, there were five calls for service for a traffic crash at this roundabout and none have been reported this year. Of these five calls for service, none confirm that the roundabout was the direct cause of the crash.

City staff members are in the process of discussing this project with adjacent property owners. Construction for this project is anticipated to begin in late spring of 2014.

Two additional intersections, Mt. Clinton Pike/Chicago Avenue and Mason/East Market streets, have been identified as locations for roundabouts in the future. For the time being, these are long-term plans and have not received funding or a more specific construction schedule.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has determined that roundabouts are one of the safest types of intersection designs, which increase safety and decrease delays at intersections.

For more information about roundabouts and how to safely maneuver through one, please visit [www.virginiadot.org/info/faq-roundabouts.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/info/faq-roundabouts.asp).

*The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 50,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).*



*Design of the roundabout at Carlton and Reservoir streets*

###